

A Giving Heart

Part 4 – Biblical Financial Stewardship

- I. Our Attitude toward material things reveals the condition of our heart.
 - A. A Getting Heart – King Solomon’s pursuit of wealth exposed his selfish heart. (Deuteronomy 17:16-17; 1 Kings 10:14-11:13).
 - B. A Giving Heart – Jesus told us to store up treasures in heaven as an expression of a devoted heart (Matthew 6:19-21).

- II. A Generous Heart develops in us as we align our hearts with God’s and imitate His grace.
 - A. Committed to God First – As we give ourselves first to God, we will eagerly sacrifice financially for others (2 Corinthians 8:1-5).
 - We must care about the same things God cares about.
 - Generosity must be a complete lifestyle and a ministry attitude, not a financial principle to benefit ourselves.

 - B. Motivated by Grace – We will “become poor” for others only if we are motivated by the grace of Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 8:9).
 - Biblical giving is driven by grace – not guilt, not the expectations of others (9:7) and not to impress others (Matthew 6:1-4).

 - C. Giving Willingly to God – Giving is a personal issue of willingness between me and God (2 Corinthians 8:10-12).

NEXT WEEK

How do I decide what to give? What is tithing and should I do it? What does God promise if I give? Is giving the key to financial prosperity?